

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The drawing sheet attached in connection with the above-identified application containing FIGS. 4 and 5 are being presented as a new formal drawing sheet to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet. FIG. 4 has been amended as discussed in greater detail below. Appended to this amendment is an annotated copy of the previous drawing sheet which has been marked to show changes presented in the replacement sheet of the drawing.

FIG. 4 has been amended to include the label “PRIOR ART” as suggested by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant notes the Office Action's consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on February 11, 2002.

The drawings stand objected to for a minor informality. Applicant greatly appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 1-3 are allowed.

By this amendment, the drawings have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns by FIG. 4 being designated with the label "PRIOR ART." Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings. Withdrawn claims 4-9 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-3 are now pending in this application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are

needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 12/20/06

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